NORTH DAKOTA

\equiv PROCLAMATION \equiv

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH SEPTEMBER 2020

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15 to 34; and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 47,000 people die by suicide in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that in 2017, there were over 1.4 million suicide attempts; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, 134 North Dakotans died by suicide and there were a reported 1,194 suicide attempts in North Dakota; and, in 2019, suicide was the second leading cause of death among North Dakotans ages 10 to 34; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the only leading cause of death in the United States that has increased every year for the past decade; and

WHEREAS, suicide has many contributing factors, with undiagnosed or untreated behavioral health conditions being the most common; and over 90 percent of people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition, although often that condition is not recognized or treated; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's Suicide Prevention effort includes several state and non-state agencies, organizations as well as individual volunteers and suicide survivors encouraging initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and North Dakota Behavioral Health Plan, Vision 20/20; and

WHEREAS, implementing effective prevention, intervention, recovery and postvention services can assist North Dakotans in finding help, hope and recovery; and

WHEREAS, suicide is a preventable public health problem, and suicide prevention is a priority.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2020, SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE